

## SIXTY-FIRST CONGRESS BEGINS REGULAR SESSION

Both Houses Called to Order at Noon With Crowded Galleries But No Flowers.

OPENING DEVOID OF CEREMONY  
AND LITTLE BUSINESS DONE

Committees Appointed to Wait Upon the President and Resolutions Concerning Deaths of Members Adopted—President's Message to Be Read Tomorrow.

The first regular session of the Sixty-first Congress convened at noon today. In the Senate the Vice President of the United States, James S. Sherman of New York, robed and smiling, wielded the gavel, while in the House of Representatives the Speaker, Uncle Joe Cannon, the iron duke of Illinois, thumped the sounding board of his desk with customary vigor.

In both branches of the national legislature when the gavel fell today were bands of insurgent braves in full war paint and feathers, waiting for the word to bolt the organization reservation. But all was deceptively peaceful. Factions mingled, enemies struck hands and the pestered dove of peace took a final flutter around both chambers before beating it down the aerial pike. Soon the insurgent leaders, attired in all the horripilated panoply of political violence, will strike the war post and the horrid war whoop will shrill through the echoing corridors of the Long House on the hill. This fraternal gathering of today was merely a respite.

### BOTH GALLERIES CROWDED.

As is customary on the opening day of a session, the galleries in both Senate and House were crowded, and long rows of the unseated stood outside the various entrances waiting patiently for the exit of the bored and meanwhile satisfying themselves with fleeting glimpses of the notables as the doors swung to and fro. Those who were familiar with the headlines in the two bodies were careful to point them out to those who weren't.

In the House the Speaker was the target and everybody rang an ocular bull's-eye. His clothes, his hair—or lack of it—his resemblance to Lincoln and his patented method of taking a dry smoke, all were subjects of comment.

There were no flowers on the desks of members. Speaker Cannon put a stop to that sort of thing three or four years ago.

### PROCEEDINGS SIMPLE.

The proceedings in both houses today were simple and the sessions brief. In the Senate, after prayer by the chaplain, Rev. Ulysses G. B. Pierce, of All Souls' Unitarian Church, the roll was called and a resolution notifying the President that the Senate is ready for business was passed. A committee was then appointed to deliver this formal message at the White House. Then an appropriate resolution concerning the death during the recess of Senator Martin N. Johnson of North Dakota was passed and the Senate adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Similar proceedings marked the session in the House. After prayer by Chaplain Couden the roll was called to establish the presence of a quorum, after which the President was notified by committee, in the same manner as that taken by the Senate.

Resolutions expressing the sorrow of the House concerning the death of Representatives Francis R. Lassiter of Virginia and David A. De Armond of Missouri were adopted and out of respect to memory of these colleagues, who have answered the last roll call, the House adjourned.

The President's message will be read in both branches tomorrow.

## SENATE IN SESSION THIRTEEN MINUTES

Early Adjournment in Respect to the Memory of Senator Johnson.

Severe simplicity marked the opening of the Senate at noon today. Thirteen minutes elapsed from the time Vice President Sherman called the body to order until he announced that the motion to adjourn was carried.

As early as 10 o'clock crowds began to form around the doors to the galleries, and an hour later practically every seat in those open to the public was taken. Ladies comprised nine-tenths of the audience, their costumes lending a dash of color to the otherwise colorless surroundings. In the diplomatic gallery only the Japanese embassy was represented. The seats reserved for the guests of the President and Vice President were also occupied.

Senator Heyburn was the first member of the body to appear on the floor of the Senate, he walking from the main entrance to the cloakroom in silk hat and black overcoat. About fifteen minutes before the hour for convening Senator Clay walked from the democratic cloakroom through the chamber to the outside corridor. Ex-Senator Teller visited the chamber a couple of minutes later, stepping into the democratic cloakroom to greet friends.

Senator Gallinger walked into the Senate chamber from the District of Columbia committee room about ten minutes before noon, and was greeted by his friends near the door of the cloakroom. He was followed almost immediately by Senators Warner and Dick, and a minute later by Senator Page.

Although he will not be sworn in until tomorrow, Senator-elect Fountain L. Thompson of North Dakota was escorted

## CHEER "UNCLE JOE" AND HIS CARNATION

House in Session Only Forty Minutes—Chaplain Couden's Prayer.

An animated scene presented itself to Speaker Cannon when he appeared in the chair promptly at noon today to call to order the House of Representatives in the initial gathering of the first regular session of the Sixty-first Congress.

The galleries were crowded to the doors long before the hour arrived. A round of applause greeted the Speaker when he entered the chamber with his customary red carnation. For a moment he stood in his place, nervously fingering the gavel. While the applause was subsiding the gavel descended with a resounding left-handed whack.

"The House will be in order. The chaplain will offer prayer."

The blind chaplain of the House, the Rev. Henry N. Couden, then implored the divine blessing upon the members of Congress, especially mentioning the Speaker, and thus prayed for the President:

"Be graciously near to the President of the United States and his advisers. Protect him and them from personal violence and from the machinations of designing men. Imbue him plentifully with wisdom from above that he may discharge all the duties incumbent upon him and adjust all national and international questions so that they redound to the good of the people and glory of Thy holy name."

Death of De Armond.

In allusion to the tragic death of Representative De Armond of Missouri, who was burned to death in his home, the chaplain prayed:

"And now, O Father, profoundly moved



PLENTY OF WORK FOR THE DISTRICT'S LEGISLATORS.

by the recent tragic and pathetic death of one of the most distinguished members of this house, who for years has been conspicuous in the affairs of his state and nation, we most fervently pray for that consolation which Thou alone canst give for his colleagues, friends, and especially the stricken wife and children; and, grant, O most merciful Father, that we may look forward with bright anticipation to a reunion with our loved ones in a realm where sorrows never come, and angels of praise will ever give to Thee in the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ."

For the next ten minutes or more, the chamber was again filled with chatter, while the roll was being called. The Speaker announced that as 341 members had responded to their names, a quorum was present and the House was ready for business.

### To Wait on President.

At this juncture the committee from the Senate was received to announce that the Senate was in session and ready for business, and that a committee had been appointed to wait upon the President.

Representatives Daboll of Pennsylvania, Bennett of New York and Clark of Missouri were appointed by the Speaker to join the Senate committee in this embassy. Another committee was named to wait in like manner upon the Senate.

Representative Jones of Virginia informed the House of the death of his colleague, Francis R. Lassiter, and offered a suitable resolution, which was agreed to. A similar resolution, offered by Representative Clark of Missouri, announced the death of De Armond.

It also was agreed to. W. W. McCready, the new representative from Washington, elected to succeed the late Couden, presented his credentials and was sworn in.

The House, as a further mark of respect to the two members who had died during the recess of Congress, at 12:30 p.m. adjourned until tomorrow.

### Thought Ellis a Stranger.

There was less of the first-day spirit manifested than for any time in recent years. Usually the members congregate on the floor for an hour or more before noon, when the Speaker's gavel falls, and have a sort of general reunion, in which handshaking and back-slapping and story-telling play a prominent part. There was little or none of this this year.

The greatest excitement of the day was furnished by the important discovery on the part of a couple of the House employees that a man, apparently a stranger in the House, for no one could recollect ever having seen him before, had entered the chamber and taken a seat on the republican side. A deputy sergeant-at-arms was hurriedly summoned and instructed to put the stranger out. But when he went to perform the mission the man bounced out of his seat, red in the face, and announced that he was Representative Ellis of Oregon, who is not a new member by any means.

"Excuse me," said the deputy sergeant-at-arms, very much embarrassed, "I didn't recognize you, Mr. Ellis, without your whiskers."

This was considered a sufficient apology, for Mr. Ellis' whiskers were famous in the House. They were only about a foot long, but bushy, and spread out on his chest like a fan or a peacock's tail, and they had another peculiarity. They used to be brown, then they got gray, and then all of a sudden last season they got black, and now they are gone for good.

### Girls in Speaker's Gallery.

All of the old red horses were on hand today and remained on the floor for the brief session, much to the gratification to the big crowd in the gallery.

The Speaker's gallery was overflowing with a crowd of the prettiest girls imaginable, and it was Speaker Cannon's fault. The Speaker, remembering this morning that his daughter, Miss Helen Cannon, was out of the city, called up his grandchild, Miss Virginia Le Sueur, who is a pupil at the Cathedral School for Girls. "Don't you want to come down to the opening of the House today and represent the family?" said the Speaker to Virginia, who is in the vicinity of seventeen.

"You bet," she replied, "and I will bring the bunch along. She did, and the Speaker had quite a time finding room for them all."

### Many Hunting Fatalities.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, December 6.—Ten persons were killed and thirty-nine injured, six probably fatally, in Ohio during the three-week hunting season which closed Saturday night. Of those injured many were crippled for life, several lost a foot, a leg or a hand, and a few were

## GOES TO HIGHEST COURT

WRIT OF CERTIORARI IN THE GOMPERS CASE.

Head of the Federation of Labor and His Associates Are Given Further Hearing.

The United States Supreme Court today granted the petition of Messrs. Gompers, Morrison and Mitchell for a writ of certiorari bringing their contempt case before the court of last resort for hearing. Announcement of the granting of the petition was made by Chief Justice Fuller, along with the court's actions on a number of other applications.

Mr. Gompers and Mr. Morrison were in the court, as was their attorney, Mr. Ralston. A number of others prominently identified with labor organizations also were present.

As soon as the announcement was made Mr. Gompers hurried into the corridor, where his wife and daughter were waiting, and affectionately greeted them. He was immediately besieged by friends, who showered congratulations upon him and Mr. Morrison.

### Comments on Court's Action.

"I am very much gratified by the action of the court in this case," said Mr. Morrison. "This will put us in getting the whole case where it belongs, before the United States Supreme Court, for action upon the important question involved."

Attorney Ralston said that as the court has granted the petition for writ it is likely that a motion to advance the case to an early hearing can be agreed upon, and if the court assents to that motion the whole case may come to a decision within sixty days.

In the meantime the action of the court today will stay the contempt sentence of Mr. Gompers and his colleagues.

### Origin of Contempt Proceedings.

The contempt case against these men grew out of a proceeding in the local courts of the District of Columbia to prohibit the federation from boycotting the Buck's Stove and Range Company of St. Louis, Mo. Pending the decision of that court the federation issued a temporary injunction against the publication of the name of the stove company in the "We don't patronize" list of the federation. This decision was freely commented upon in the federal organ and the contempt order was based upon this comment.

After extended hearings the three men were sentenced to imprisonment by Justice Wright, Gompers receiving twelve months, Mitchell nine and Morrison six. Upon appeal the District Court of Appeals affirmed the decision. The Supreme Court will review the entire case as thus made out.

### ILLNESS OF CZARINA.

Russian Imperial Family Summoned to Her Bedside.

ROME, December 6.—The Tribune says the Czarina is seriously ill at Livadia. She has had several attacks from which she has recovered with great difficulty. She is greatly depressed. Several members of the Russian imperial family received urgent requests from Livadia yesterday and started at once to see her royal highness. The nature of the attacks from which the Czarina is suffering is not specified, but it is presumed they are due to neurasthenia, with which she has been troubled for a long time.

### FRANK E. BEELER DIES.

Hagerstown Business Man Is a Victim of Cancer.

HAGERSTOWN, Md., December 6.—Frank E. Beeler, a business man of Hagerstown, senior member of the firm of F. E. Beeler & Son, died at his home today from cancerous trouble, aged for-

ty-five years. A pathetic incident in connection with the final illness of Mr. Beeler was the tragic death a few weeks ago of his son and partner. Worry over the fact that his father's illness was sure to prove fatal caused Beeler to commit suicide.

Mr. Beeler is survived by his widow, who was a daughter of the late John A. Beeler, one of the best known citizens of this section, and a member of Hagerstown Lodge of Elks and other fraternal organizations.

## BOYS AVERT TRAIN WRECK.

Remove Iron Obstacles From Track of Lehigh Road.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

WILKESBARRE, December 6.—Officials of the Lehigh Valley railroad were informed this morning of an attempt to wreck the west-bound passenger train over the Lehigh valley tracks, which was prevented, accidentally, by the appearance of three boys. The boys had been in the woods and came out on the track near Hanover, six miles from this city. They saw two Italians placing heavy pieces of iron between the rails at a point where there is a sharp curve on a heavy grade, and the tracks are on a high retaining wall.

The Italians fled when the boys appeared and the boys removed the iron. A few minutes afterward they saw the passenger train go past. They told the story to their parents last night and this morning the railroad officials, upon being notified, placed detectives on the case.

### UPTON DARBY DIES.

One of the Pioneer Residents of Montgomery County, Md.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

BOYD, Md., December 6.—Upton Darby, one of the oldest citizens of this section of Montgomery county, Md., died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Nourse, about 7 o'clock this morning, after a short illness of bladder affection, aged eighty-seven years.

Mr. Darby throughout his life was a prosperous business man and much esteemed and took general interest in matters throughout the county. He is survived by three sons, Frank and Upton C. Darby of Williamsport, Md., and Ernest Darby of Seneca, this county, and one daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Nourse.

### RETURNING TO MADRID.

Queen Victoria of Spain Leaves London for Home.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

LONDON, December 6.—Queen Victoria of Spain, who has been in London to see her brother, Prince Leopold of Battenberg, who has been seriously ill, started on her return trip to Madrid this morning.

### MANN PROPOSES CHANGE.

Introduces Bill to Abolish Isthmian Canal Commission.

Representative Mann of Illinois, chairman of the House committee on Interstate and foreign commerce, introduced today a bill to abolish the Isthmian canal commission and substitute for its seven members a director general to have entire charge of the digging of the canal, and a civil governor, to have charge of the administration of affairs in the Canal Zone.

The bill also provides for trial by jury in felony cases—only capital cases are tried by jury now—and for appeals from the circuit courts of Panama to the federal courts of Louisiana.

### King a Prize-Winning Farmer.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

LONDON, December 6.—King Edward today was awarded four first prizes for his exhibits at the Smithfield cattle show. The announcement of his majesty's success brought out a fact which is not generally known, that King Edward is a tenant farmer, not a landlord, and pays a large sum every year in rent and taxes for his holdings.

## TOO BUSY TO CHOOSE WAR MESSAGE SOON

President Delays Selection of District Commissioners.

MAY BE READY IN 10 DAYS

Senator Gallinger Among President's Callers Today.

LOCAL AFFAIRS DISCUSSED

Kentucky Appointments Await Harmony Among State's Representatives.

The new Commissioners for the District of Columbia will probably not be selected by the President for ten days, although he desires to dispose of the responsibility as early as he is able.

The probability is that by the end of this week the President will begin going through the mass of papers filed with him by candidates and their friends, and he may see a few callers in behalf of candidates. For the next few days, however, he will be occupied on other business, and the District problem will temporarily remain up in the air, where it has been for practically a month.

Senator Gallinger, chairman of the District of Columbia committee of the Senate, discussed District affairs with the President this morning, but the talk pertained more to legislation than to candidates for office. Senator Gallinger has found that his hands are fully engaged in trying to enact suitable laws for the District, and has enough to do without recommending candidates for Commissioners. Therefore, he is doing all he can to avoid entanglement in the fight that is on for the filling of these two important vacancies.

### Increased Activity Probable.

The knowledge that the President will be prepared within ten days to take up the District appointments will have the effect of stirring to increased activity the efforts of friends of the various candidates, so that the final word for each man may be spoken, in writing or otherwise, before the presidential flag falls.

### Callers Paying Respects.

The Congress-day-opening scene was repeated at the White House today, many senators and representatives calling to shake hands with the President and extend their best wishes. The list today included Senators Crane, Keen, Warren, Plies, Guggenheim, Scott, Brown, Ripston, Gallinger, Burrows and Nixon; Representatives Lawrence, Parker, Kennedy, Crier, Moffett, Tamm, Clegg, Cullen, Fowler, Burke, Boutwell, Bennett, Lowden, Langley and others. Senator Burrows introduced Gen. Henry M. Duffield of Delaware, and Senator Warren introduced Mrs. Della R. Henry of Kansas City, president of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

Death of Senator Nixon's Mother.

Senator Nixon will leave here Wednesday for Nevada to attend the funeral of his mother, who died last week while the senator was on his way back to this country from Europe. The Nevada senator's mother was one of the noted women of the early days of the west. She was eighty-two years old and crossed the continent with her husband in 1822, traveling for six months in a wagon. Her husband, the senator's father, is still alive. The couple had been married over fifty-seven years, and shortly after her death Mrs. Nixon was active and alert in the performance of her household duties.

Kentucky Patronage in Abeyance.

Representative Langley of Kentucky was in conference with the President about Kentucky patronage, which has been unsettled for a number of months owing to the failure of republican representatives to agree with Senator Bradley. Shortly, however, the President must settle these appointments. The Kentucky congressmen have been able to agree upon just one man. That man is Judge M. C. Cochran of the eastern district of the state. The Kentuckians want Judge Cochran elevated to the circuit court bench when Judge Lorton of Tennessee is nominated for associate justice of the Supreme Court in place of the late Justice Peckham.

The President has communicated to the Kentuckians about the same message he has given to all others who have sought to make recommendations for judicial appointments—that while desirous of receiving recommendations he in no way commits himself to follow them, and prefers free hand in making his judicial appointments. He is in all political appointments the President will comply with the recommendations of the proper organizations of men so far as he can do so.

### Customs Collector in Louisville.

The most sought-after federal job in Louisville is that of collector of customs at Louisville, the pay for which is good and the work easy. This place has been held for eight years by J. A. Kraft, scores of men are hunting the job, but the man nearest the plum is Ludlow F. Petty, private secretary to Senator Bradley. He has been agreed upon by Senator Bradley and Representative Langley and Bennett. He is also acceptable to Postmaster General Hitchcock, the political guide of the administration. There is little doubt of his selection.

Stephen G. Sharrp has been little States marshal of the eastern district since 1892. He is one of the Kentucky democrats Gen. Basil Duke induced former President Roosevelt to appoint in that state. The republican leaders and the democrats want him as a district judge. He will probably get it. Mr. Langley wants A. B. Patrick of Salyersville to have the place.

### Keen in a Hard Fight.

Senator Keen of New Jersey is one of the republican members of the upper house who has a fight on his hands to get another term. March 4, 1911, he will have been in the Senate twelve years. He succeeded a democrat, Smith, and he has had the organization at his back all that time. Several of the strongest men in the state are out against him, and he must hustle to win out. The legislature that will name his successor will be chosen next year.

President Has a Cold.

Visitors who saw the President today found him suffering from a slight cold, sufficient to annoy him. He is taking medicine, and hopes to break up the trouble. He will remain in his office this afternoon dictating letters and reading over the many pages of testimony in the "what is sinky" hearing. The chimney in the new addition to the White House are not drawing well, and will have to be looked after. Those built for firewood smoke badly, that in the President's house.

(Continued on Second Page.)

Congress to Determine Next Move in Nicaragua.

TO HAVE CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to and From Zelaya Said to Be "Full of Ginger."

DR. CREEL'S MISSION HERE

Department Has No Information of His Coming to Make Representations on the Part of Mexico.

The question of whether the United States shall employ force in the settlement of the troubles in Nicaragua is now up to Congress. It is expected that the President will submit a special message on that subject in a few days. In anticipation of its being called for by one House or the other, the State Department has prepared copies of all the correspondence relating to recent events in Nicaragua, including the capture and execution of the two Americans, Cannon and Groce, and the action of Secretary Knox in severing diplomatic relations with the Zelaya government.

This correspondence will make mighty interesting reading, as there is considerable ginger in some of the unpublished notes of Secretary Knox and the American consul in Nicaragua. There is considerable curiosity to know the letters received from Zelaya and his representatives in view of the current rumors that Zelaya defends his course in action and offers to submit the matters at issue to the arbitration of a neutral government.

### Zelaya Preparing to Flee?

The State Department has received a message from the United States consulate at Managua, dated the 4th instant, to the effect that it is reported there that President Zelaya is sending troops and artillery eastward and that rumors are renewed of his intention to leave Nicaragua.

The State Department has no information of the purpose of Mr. Creel, the former Mexican ambassador to the United States, to come to Washington as a representative of Mexico to make certain representations to the State Department concerning the Nicaraguan situation. Mr. Creel is reported to be coming here to co-operate in this matter with Dr. Luis Anderson, former minister of foreign affairs of the Costa Rican government. It is said at the State Department that Mr. Anderson's only mission in Washington is in connection with the long-standing boundary dispute between Costa Rica and Panama, and the announcement is officially made that Chief Justice Fuller of the United States Supreme Court has consented to act as arbitrator in that dispute. His decision, it is understood, will be final and binding upon both parties.

The statement is authoritatively made that the Mexican government is in accord with the views and purposes of the United States with respect to Nicaragua and that she will sustain this government in carrying out those policies.

### Rodriguez Holding Aloof.

Although Senor Rodriguez, the Nicaraguan charge, has so far failed to accept the permission of Secretary Knox to communicate with him unofficially, Senor Castillo, the representative of the provisional government, has gladly availed himself of that privilege. Senor Castillo has had several long conferences with Secretary Knox and has supplied him with considerable information regarding affairs in Nicaragua from the Estrada movement and gives personal assurance of the punishment of Zelaya. Jose de Olivares, United States consul



Pedro Gonzales, Special envoy from President Zelaya, here to see

at Managua, who has been absent from his post for several weeks on leave of absence, is now in this city. It is stated that he was summoned here to assist the State Department officials in preparing the official records of the Nicaraguan affair. As there is a good deal for him to do here at this time, it is not likely that he will be able to return to his post for many weeks. Mr. Knowles, the United States minister to Nicaragua, has been instructed to remain in this country in touch with the Secretary of State until the Nicaraguan affair is straightened out to the satisfaction of the administration.

### Movements of Warships.

The presence of nine warships in Hampton roads and their northern navy yards to join the Atlantic fleet under Rear Admiral Schroeder, is explained at the Navy Department by the statement that this activity has nothing whatever to do with developments in Nicaragua. The ships are simply preparing for the heavy annual winter work. As soon as the fleet is assembled in Hampton roads it will proceed to the southern drill grounds off the Chesapeake capes for maneuvers and target practice, but by December 18 the ships will be at the New York navy yard in order to let the sailors